

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /083 W

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R 170335Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6920

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: JA, US

SUBJ: SUMMARY MEDIA COVERAGE LOCKHEED AFFAIR, FEB 14 AND 15

REF: TOKYO 2236

1. FEB 14 PAPERS AND BROADCASTS CONCENTRATED ON REPORTS CHURCH SUB-COMMITTEE WOULD NOT RELEASE NAMES OF HIGH OFFICIALS CONNECTED TO LOCKHEED PAYOFFS AND ON NEW REVELATION OF LINKS BETWEEN THE MYSTERIOUS I.D. CORPORATION, MARUBENI, KODAMA AND LOCKHEED. BE 14 AM ASAHI FRONTPAGE SUB-COMMITTEE RELEASE OF RECEIPTS FROM LOCKHEED OF 640 THOUSAND DOLLARS BY A MR. SHIG KATAYAMA, PRESIDENT OF UNITED STEEL CO OF TOKYO AND CHIEF OF THE I.D. CORPORATION. PM PERS AND NEWS PLAYED THIS STORY AS SUBSTANTIATING ALLEGED TIE-UPS BETWEEN MARUBENI, I.D. AND LOCKHEED. AM YOMIURI FRONTPAGE PM MIKI'S CLOSED-DOOR FEB 13 MEETING WITH GOVERNMENT LEADERS ON LOCKHEED WHICH RESULTED IN MIKI REQUEST THAT FM MIYAZAWA PURSUE USG RELEASE OF NAMES OF IMPLICATED JAPANESE OFFICIALS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

2. FEB 15 PRESS GAVE LOW KEY COVERAGE TO REPORTED USG RELUCTANCE RELEASE NAMES OF JAPANESE OFFICIALS. SIMILAR YOMIURI AND ASAHI EDITORIALS OPINED USG REFUSAL COULD DAMAGE US-JAPAN
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RELATIONS BY LIMITING DIET INVESTIGATION. OTHER EDITORIAL

THEME WAS HOPE THAT DIET, BY FULLY EXERCISING ITS INVESTIGATIVE PREROGATIVES, COULD AIR LOCKHEED SCANDAL THOROUGHLY.

3. MAIN NEWSPAPER AND BROADCAST COVERAGE ON FEB 15 REFLECTED SHIFT OF LOCKHEED FOCUS FROM CHURCH SUB-COMMITTEE TO BEGINNING OF DIET TESTIMONY ON FEB 16. ALL FRONTPAGED KODAMA'S NON-APPEARANCE BECAUSE OF ILLNESS. IN WAKE OF SUB-COMMITTEE EVIDENCE OF A LOCKHEED-KODAMA CONTRACT, NHK, YOMIURI, NIHON KEIZAI AND ASAHI RAN LENGTHY STORIES ON POSSIBLE KODAMA INFLUENCE IN DEFENSE AGENCY'S DECISION TO BUY LOCKHEED PC3'S. NIHON KEIZAI AND MAINICHI ALSO FRONTPAGED TAX ADMINISTRATION AGENCY'S STEPPED-UP INVESTIGATION OF KODAMA'S TAX RETURNS.
HODGSON

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